

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant(s) makes no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant(s) makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).


By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant(s) makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicant(s), the Examiner is urged to form his or her own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

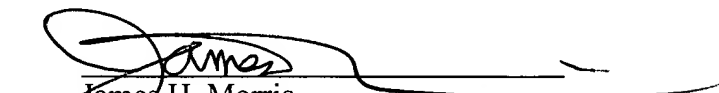
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on February 28, 2001.



Attorney Docket No.: S1022/8484

Respectfully submitted,



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